

Brothers In Arms: The Story of al-Qa'ida and the Arab Jihadists

By Camille Tawil



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"An excellent source for anyone interested in the region." - New York Journal of Books

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"Camille Tawil delivers a carefully reported assessment of al Qaeda and its affiliated Arab jihadist groups."—Peter Bergen, author of *Holy War, Inc.*

Since 2001 America's War on Terror has achieved what Osama bin Laden could not: the unification of the jihad under al-Qa'ida's banner. Although today al-Qa'ida is seen as the epitome of jihad, when it first emerged other militant Islamists rejected its vision of a holy war against the West.

Investigative journalist Camille Tawil charts the history of conflict and complicity between al-Qa'ida and its brothers in arms from the late 1980s to the present day. Drawing on a network of contacts in Egyptian Islamic Jihad, Algeria's Armed Islamic Group, and the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, he shows how the failure of their separate national struggles brought them increasingly under the influence of Osama bin Laden and his global agenda.

From prison cells in Morocco to the caves of Tora Bora, Tawil gives us unique access to the key players behind the jihadist movement and the evolution of its violent ideology.

Born in 1965, **Camille Tawil** is a Lebanese writer and investigative journalist. He has covered Islamic militant groups for *al-Hayat* Arabic daily in London since the early 1990s.

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Review

Endorsements: 'One of the most rigorous, best researched and informed account of Islamic militancy available today. Tawil's deep understanding, fine analysis, eye for detail and the reams of new material gathered in years of reporting makes this work invaluable to the scholar and general reader alike.' Jason Burke, author of Al-Qaeda: The True Story of Radical Islam 'Camille Tawil delivers a carefully reported assessment of al Qaeda and its affiliated Arab jihadist groups - [this is] an important addition to the studies of al Qaeda and the other militant groups it has influenced.' Peter Bergen, author of Holy War, Inc. and The Osama bin Laden I Know 'Among the best works in English on the Sunni Islamist phenomenon and the role of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda therein - Tawil's book is a long-needed, detailed, and primary source based analysis of the structure, evolution, and operations of the Maghreb's Sunni militant groups - Brothers in Arms sheds a clear and indispensable - if troubling - light on a religious war that is far from over.' Michael F. Scheuer, former CIA Head of Bin Laden Unit and Professor of Security Studies, Georgetown 'Brothers in Arms is a must-read for anyone interested in the evolution of militant Islam in the region and beyond.' Alison Pargeter, author of The Muslim Brotherhood: The Burden of Tradition

About the Author

Born in 1965 in Lebanon, Camille Tawil has covered Islamic militant groups for Al-Hayat Arabic daily in London since the early 1990s. His blog is http://camilletawil.blogspot.com/. His other works include The Armed Islamic Movement in Algeria. Author location: London, UK

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